



JANUARY 2014

Great Year Ahead!

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

The Chairman's Incoming Message

by Supervisor Don Knabe, Fourth District

I am honored to serve as Chairman of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. This will be my final time serving as Chairman, and to me, it will be the most meaningful. We face a number of great challenges, but our Board is strong and united, and focused on good, responsible government for the 10 million residents of this great County.



I am proud that we have been able to work through some very critical issues and remain fiscally responsible. Despite our different political viewpoints, this Board does not get bogged down in partisan bickering like our colleagues at the federal and State level. We cannot. The buck stops here.

As Chairman, I am establishing two main focuses that will keep L.A. County on a path to prosperity and success for all residents: innovation and customer service. While I know that these terms can get thrown around a lot, it is important for us to think about them on a daily basis as we serve the residents of the largest County in the nation. At the end of the day, interacting with the County should be as easy as making a purchase on Amazon.

Innovation is not just about updating old technologies and developing apps for smartphones. It is about changing our overall culture to be more responsive to the needs of our residents. We need to move away from the mentality that "This is the way we've always done things."

We are the largest County in the nation. When it comes to public policy, our voice is amongst the loudest. We have 35 departments, working to meet the needs of 10 million residents.

I know how hard our employees work, often in very challenging environments, under extraordinary pressures.

But sometimes, like in all organizations, we get caught-up in our own challenges and work in silos. So this year, I am establishing the "Chairman's Challenge" to recognize those who develop and implement an innovative program or initiative that helps us meet the needs of our residents in a way that we have not always done. Fresh. New. Not what people expect from government.

As Albert Einstein once said, "We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them." As I wish you a blessed, healthy and prosperous 2014, I am looking forward to a great year ahead!

Safe Surrender for 2014

Supervisor Don Knabe announced the County's Safe Surrender Program celebrated success for the first time this year with the report of a safely surrendered newborn baby girl on January 4, 2014 at a hospital in Culver City.

"There is no better way to start the New Year than to learn of the healthy and safe surrender of a newborn baby girl," said Supervisor Knabe.

This is the 114th since the program began nearly 13 years ago. The program was initiated by Supervisor Knabe and approved unanimously by the Board of Supervisors in 2001. It allows someone to surrender an infant that is no more than three days old, as long as the infant shows no signs of abuse. To learn more about the Safe Surrender Program, visit BabySafeLA.org.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Natural History Museum

(213) 763-DINO

www.nhm.org

Ongoing – Becoming Los Angeles
Through April 13 – Traveling the Silk Road
Through August 3 – Just Add Water

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

(323) 857-6010

www.lacma.org

Through June 6 – Kaz Oshiro: Chasing Ghosts at Charles White Elementary School Gallery
Through February 2 – Under the Mexican Sky: Gabriel Figueroa-Art and Film
Through June 22 – Agnes Varda in Californialand
Through July 27 – Calder and Abstraction: From Avant-Garde to Iconic

Center Theatre Group

(213) 628-2772

www.centertheatregroup.org

- **Ahmanson Theatre**

Through February 9 – A Word or Two
March 4 through April 13 – Harmony

- **Kirk Douglas Theatre**

Through February 9 – I'll Go On
February 25 through March 16 – 50 Shades! The Musical

- **Mark Taper Forum**

January 29 through March 9 – Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

January 31 through February 2 – Royal New Zealand Ballet
February 22 through March 16 – Billy Budd

Walt Disney Concert Hall

February 9 – 10th Anniversary Celebration: Herbie Hancock, Christian McBride, Dianne Reeves
February 26 – Tchaikovskyfest: Shakespeare Fantasy
March 22 – Hugh Masekela: 75th Birthday Celebration
April 26 – Cheyenne Jackson: Music of the Mad Men Era

Grand Park

www.grandparkla.org

January 29 – Lunch A La Park
January 29 – Lunchtime Yoga reTREAT
February 4 – Downtown Farmers' Market
February 14 – Grand Park's Got Funky Sole: Lovers Edition

Visit <http://hr.lacounty.gov> for
information on employment
opportunities with the
County of Los Angeles



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Fourth District

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Second District

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edited or otherwise altered for clarity.

Check out the DIGEST at

<http://dhrdcap.co.la.ca.us/jic/digest/>



health talk



by Mark Richman, M.D., M.P.H.
Physician Specialist, Emergency Medicine
Olive View-UCLA Medical Center
and Khathy Hoang, Student Volunteer

Immunizations: The Best Offense Is a Good Defense

Who: Everyone benefits from vaccines, which have prevented millions of illnesses and deaths.

Why: Thanks to vaccines, previously-common infections (smallpox, measles, mumps, rubella, and polio) are rare. By preventing infections that cause cancer, vaccines against Hepatitis B and HPV reduce cancer risk.

The recent pertussis epidemic and measles outbreak happened because some people are not vaccinating their children or themselves. Many deaths from influenza occur in unvaccinated people.

How vaccines work: As in sports, an aggressive offense starts with strong defense. The body doesn't like foreign invaders, such as bacteria or viruses. To protect us, our immune/defense system produces antibodies (proteins) to disable invaders or bring helper white blood cells to attack.

Immunizations/vaccines present the body with a small amount of a foreign substance. The body makes antibodies against that substance. The immune system has a "memory," producing a strong antibody response when it detects that substance again.

Side effects are rare and mostly limited to local reactions (e.g., muscle pain). Vaccines do not cause autism. Most are safe in pregnancy.

When: The recommended vaccine schedule is at:
www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip/syndication/vaccineSchedule.htm

Skipping or delaying vaccines leaves you at risk for serious diseases. Protect yourself and your family. Get vaccinated on time.

Everyone six months of age and older should get a flu vaccine every year as soon as they are available.

Where: If you think you or your children are due for a vaccine:

If you have health insurance and a provider, visit your provider. If not, visit www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip/IZclinics/clinics.htm for a list of places to get no-cost or low-cost immunizations. The County of Los Angeles Public Health Immunization Program would like to emphasize that only individuals who do not have insurance will be able to receive no-cost or low-cost immunizations at the sites on this list.

Inclement Weather:

**An Answer to a Lifelong Question--
Why is the old man snoring?**

by Mark Richman, M.D., M.P.H.
and Amy Skelton, Student Volunteer

It's raining, it's pouring, and the old man is snoring. He may be snoring because he caught a "cold" or "flu" (influenza). These are very contagious because people spend more time indoors near others during bad weather. Or, maybe he took "cold" medications with a sleeping side effect. Or, perhaps, he's depressed.



Bad weather is associated with many health issues such as infectious colds, rheumatologic conditions, trauma, temperature control, and problems with mental health. Rheumatologic conditions such as arthritis are agitated by changes in weather. Trauma may be due to impaired sight or loss of control while driving. Sleet/ice contributes to slippery roads and lack of traction. Rain/snow may impair your view of other vehicles, traffic signs/signals and hazards such as fallen branches, holes, people/animals crossing, etc. Hypothermia may be caused by prolonged exposure to severe cold. The cold weather, gray skies, and long periods of darkness cause/worsen depression.

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is depression caused by seasonal changes, most commonly in the winter. This may be mistaken as the "winter blues," but is serious and should be treated. To prevent/treat SAD, try to exercise, avoid alcohol/drugs, and eat healthy. And remember, spring is right around the corner!

Discover Art and More at the Renovated Pico Rivera Library!

It was with great excitement that Supervisor Gloria Molina opened the Pico Rivera Library on December 14, 2013. The small, round, and iconic library that many who grew up in Pico Rivera remember was demolished to make room for this state-of-the-art, \$16 million, 16,000-square-foot structure—which, incredibly, fits into the triangular lot at Rosemead Boulevard and Mines Avenue!

The new facility is a “library of the future” and serves as both a learning center and hub for civic engagement, offering amenities and programs for the entire family. In addition to its 80,000 item collection, the new Pico Rivera Library features group study rooms, outdoor reading courtyards, a homework center with computers, self-check machines, a community meeting room, and much more!

The Pico Rivera Library is also a “green” library – energy efficient and sustainable. Because of the design and construction team’s diligence – plus L.A. County’s high environmental standards – the new library has received a Gold LEED certification.



“Observation Post 1” is the library’s outdoor sculpture created by artist and UCLA Professor of Design|Media Arts Rebecca Méndez. It invites the public to frame their view of Pico Rivera, and will evolve over time to reflect the area’s changing landscape. The sculpture has a quotation by French author Marcel Proust, with the sky as a backdrop: “The only true voyage of discovery would not be to visit strange lands, but to possess other eyes, to behold the universe through the eyes of another, of a hundred others—to behold a hundred universes that each of them beholds, that each of them is!”

Another piece by Méndez, titled “Circumsolar, Migration 2,” reminds patrons that reading books transports you to places outside of the library’s walls and even outside of your particular time period. This 2,000 square foot photographic mural displays the seasonal path of the Arctic Tern, a seabird that flies from the Arctic to the Antarctic Circle and returns yearly. Many different terns make Pico Rivera’s Paseo del Rio at the Rio Hondo Spreading Grounds their home because it connects the Arctic Tern to the city of Pico Rivera, and Pico Rivera to lands outside its borders.

For more information about Pico Rivera Library programs, call (323) 722-5621 or visit <http://www.colapublib.org/libs/picorivera/new-building.php>.

Public Health Opens New Call Center for Environmental Health Questions

Did you know that the Department of Public Health’s Division of Environmental Health receives approximately 100,000 calls from the public each year? These calls, which range from complaints about unsanitary housing conditions and unsafe restaurant practices to general requests for information, were received and processed regionally by the division’s 16 district offices. As of November 1, 2013, calls are now being handled by a centralized Customer Call Center.

Contact Information:

Environmental Health Customer Call Center

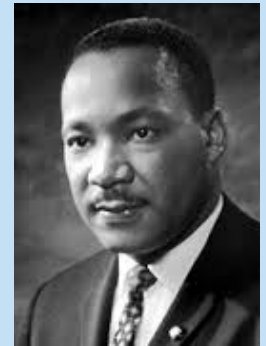
(888) 700-9995 (Phone)

(626) 813-4829 (FAX)

ehmail@ph.lacounty.gov (E-mail)

“Through our scientific and technological genius we’ve made of this world a neighborhood. And now through our moral and ethical commitment we must make of it a brotherhood. We must all learn to live together as brothers—or we will all perish together as fools. This is the great issue facing us today. No individual can live alone; no nation can live alone. We are tied together.”

—Martin Luther King, Jr.



Organized to Execute

A Profile of the Chief Information Office

The County’s Chief Information Office (CIO) is, in one way or another, involved in almost everything related to information technology (IT). “My Office reviews departmental IT Business Automation Plans, all IT-related Board contracts, creates service master agreements, negotiates enterprise agreements for computer software and hardware (PC workstations, laptops, and tablets) and recently, video conference equipment,” said Richard Sanchez, Chief Information Officer.

“Within my Office, the Chief Information Security Officer sets information security standards and policy; the Chief Data Officer, a new position for the County, is developing strategy for data sharing among departments; the Geographical Information Officer is expanding the usage of Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping images within applications; and the electronic Government lead and Committee are increasing Internet services to constituents,” Sanchez adds.

In 2013, the County received 714,261,757 million emails. Only 10 percent of these emails were legitimate messages. The County’s security systems identified the rest as spam, malicious intent, or non-business related messages blocked from delivery.

“We’re a small department with a focus on enterprise services, that is, systems, services and products that benefit all departments and can assist them to be successful,” Sanchez says. “These are exciting times! Computer technology is rapidly changing and the delivery of services is evolving from traditional hardwired systems to Smart Apps on the Web available to mobile workers using tablet and smartphone devices. My staff and I regularly meet to discuss issues, provide solutions, and reward good work. We work hard to build strong relationships with all departments, particularly with the departmental CIOs who are in the front line providing IT solutions to business problems.”

In 2013, over 2.6 million visitors accessed the County’s Internet portal seeking information or on-line services from County departments. Over 1.5 billion dollars of property taxes were paid over the Internet.

“We work with departmental business leaders and department CIO’s to leverage IT so that internal business procedures can be improved for employees and vital public services can be easily processed and, where feasible, made accessible via the Internet and smart mobile applications. We strive to find solutions that will save departments money, and make information access easier to our constituents.”

The CIO’s e-Government lead works closely with the CEO’s Public Affairs Office to improve the look of the County Internet Portal and assists departments to make their websites dynamic and interactive. Updated sites include Animal Care and Control, Health Services, Human Resources, Military and Veterans Affairs, and Sheriff. Check them out!

Graphical information has always been a strong visualization tool that has been used to provide critical County service locations of social, vital and locations through mapping services.

What’s in store in 2014 for IT? Innovation! The CIO is pursuing transformational innovation in its Strategic programs for the new year. Pursuant to the Board’s Chair to innovate and the CEO’s desire to reduce cost, the CIO will work with the CIO Council and the CIO Leadership Committee to:

- Improve services and save money through master service agreements.
- Complete migrations to a single email system and virtualize servers.
- Implement the Board directed Managed Print Services.
- Prioritize the replacement or modernization of older (Legacy) systems.
- Obtain Board approval to break ground on a new data center with the CEO and ISD.

The Chief Information Office is organized to execute.

Child Support Services Department Opens New Pomona Office

The Los Angeles County Child Support Services Department (CSSD) opened a new office in Pomona to provide service to residents of east Los Angeles County. Formerly located in West Covina, the new CSSD Pomona division is now located at 3179 Temple Avenue, Pomona, CA 91768.

“We are pleased to serve the public in this new office which is our prototype for our office of the future,” said Dr. Steven J. Golightly, CSSD Director. “We have been working continually to make our offices a welcoming environment for parents, families, and children. In Pomona, our clients will be greeted with a customer-friendly reception and play area for children.”

Child support services include establishing and modifying child support orders, establishing paternity, locating parents, and collecting monetary support for families.

The Pomona office will provide clients with improved and easy access from the 10, 60 and 57 freeways. Communities served by the division include Alhambra, Arcadia, Azusa, Claremont, Covina, Diamond Bar, El Monte, Glendora, Eagle Rock, Hacienda Heights, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Pomona, Pasadena, San Marino, San Dimas, Temple City, and Whittier.

For more information about the Los Angeles County Child Support Services Department, contact (866) 901-3212 or <http://cssd.lacounty.gov>.



The CSSD Pomona office is easily accessed by the 10, 60, and 57 freeways.



Winter is Here: Prepare Now for Flood Safety

Even though a drought has been recently declared throughout the State, it is important to plan and prepare for the increased potential of flooding, mudslides, and debris run-off in the event of heavy rains. Flowing water is an instant danger zone! The L.A. County Fire Department urges residents living in areas prone to debris flows and mudslides to be prepared for danger as winter approaches. Stay safe by doing this:

- Stay away from flood control channels, catch basins, canyons and natural waterways which are susceptible to flooding during periods of heavy rain.
- Do not attempt to cross flooded areas and never enter moving water.
- If flooding traps you in your car, stay inside. If the water rises higher, wait on top of your car for assistance. Do not step into moving water around your car.
- If you become isolated, seek the highest ground available and wait for help.
- If you see someone who has been swept into moving water, do not enter the water and attempt a rescue. Immediately call 911 for trained emergency rescue personnel and, if possible, throw them some type of flotation device.
- Know how to shut off all utilities. Remember, water and electricity do not mix.
- Obtain sandbags ahead of time! Sandbags (and instructions about how to use them) are available at most L.A. County fire stations. Call your local fire station to find out where sand and sandbags may be picked up.

The more prepared you are, the better your chances are for survival during a major water-related emergency. For more information on flood safety and disaster preparedness, please visit: <http://fire.lacounty.gov/SafetyPreparedness/SafetyPreparedness.asp>.

Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery: In Our Own Backyard?

by Kay Buck, Executive Director, Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking and Robin Toma, Executive Director, L.A. County Commission on Human Relations

It's hard to imagine being subjected to life as a slave in the land of the free. Many Americans think of slavery as a problem of days long past. The astonishing truth is that slavery continues to exist in modern society. In fact, there are more slaves in the world today than ever before in history.

Many people mistakenly think slavery is a problem in other countries, not the United States. The sad news is that at least 15-18,000 people are trafficked into the U.S. every year, Los Angeles being a major hub. Human trafficking is the fastest growing criminal enterprise, so fast that it is now tied with the arms trade, second only to drug trafficking.

Trafficking people is more lucrative than drugs because people can be sold over and over again. Traffickers hide victims in fields, brothels, massage parlors, private homes, restaurants and hotels, and factories.

Looking for a way to better their lives, victims are tricked into thinking they have landed a great opportunity, a step towards realizing their life dreams. What they discover is a nightmare. California is one of the top three ports of entry for victims of trafficking, and girls as young as 12 are forced or lured into the commercial sex industry on the streets of our County. We know this firsthand because the number of victims seeking help from agencies like the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST) has increased by 52%.

Keri, who just turned 18, fled the abuse and neglect she experienced in foster care. Looking for a sense of family, she was romanced by a man online. He turned out to be a pimp who sold her 10 times a night for \$50.

Esperanza, an 8-year-old girl, and her mother were enslaved as workers in a food truck. The trafficker beat, degraded, and taunted them. He took away Esperanza's shoes so she was forced to walk barefoot on hot asphalt, and when she had to use the restroom, despite the pleas of her mother, he made them both urinate into a plastic bag.

So what's being done about human trafficking in our County?

A lot. Supervisors Don Knabe and Mark Ridley-Thomas are championing this issue by making this a County priority and calling for action. L.A. County agencies—Probation, Children and Family Services, Public Health, Mental Health, Health Services, District Attorney, Sheriff's, Public Defender,

Community and Senior Services, and the Human Relations Commission—are figuring out ways to increase their services and collaborate with each other and with community and faith agencies to help victims of human trafficking, particularly children trafficked in the commercial sex industry.

The leadership of Michelle Guymon of Probation and STAR COURT's Commissioner Pratt has brought about the development of a Countywide protocol and an innovative specialized court for girls who are identified as trafficking victims, getting them the help they need and deserve.

The L.A. Metropolitan Task Force on Human Trafficking is a network of over 60 government, community, and law enforcement agencies that has been identifying both forced labor and sex trafficking survivors in the greater L.A. area for several years.

Recent changes in state law now require adult businesses, bus stops, emergency rooms and urgent care centers, private job recruitment centers, and other key businesses to post information, including CAST's 24-hour hotline (888) KEY-2FRE(EDOM) to help victims of trafficking.

Now that you know, let's do something about it!

Everyone has a role to play in ending human trafficking. President Obama named January as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. During his speech last year, he said, "Modern day slavery ought to concern every person because it is a debasement to our common humanity. It ought to concern every community because it tears at our social fabric. It ought to concern every business because it distorts markets. It ought to concern every nation because it endangers public health and fuels violence and organized crime."

L.A. County can serve to inspire a bold local movement to bring us one step closer to a County without modern slavery.

Here are some things you can do today:

- **Donate basic necessities**
 - o Toiletries, new pajamas, bus passes, grocery gift cards, gently used or new baby supplies and educational toys for infants from 6-18 months



Larry Itliong Village

County Provides Funding to Create Housing for Low-Income Families and Transition Age Youth with Onsite Supportive Services

The Community Development Commission (CDC) joined the Pilipino Worker's Center (PWC) and Little Tokyo Service Center Community Development Corporation to celebrate the grand opening of the Larry Itliong Village, a PWC Family Housing project. Larry Itliong Village offers 45 units of affordable family housing including nine units set aside for transition age youth and 22 units for homeless individuals. All units are affordable and range from 30%-50% average median income.

The site underwent \$1.5 million in brownfield remediation to eliminate soil contaminants. The CDC provided predevelopment and permanent financing of \$1.7 million in City of Industry funds to assist with the development of the five-story multi-family complex.

Larry Itliong Village compliments the Pilipino architectural elements of the area. Other amenities include two residential community rooms, 3,000 square feet of office space, and a 150 square-foot convenience store located on the ground floor. PWC will also arrange for onsite case management and supportive services for residents such as assistance in accessing affordable health care; employment or healthcare related issues or needs; job skills workshops including financial literacy, computer skills trainings, résumé building; and a community technology center.

Supervisor Gloria Molina, who represents the area said, "This new development brings much needed housing and services for the homeless and the youth. Through the partners' collaboration and determination, Larry Itliong Village will prove to be a wonderful addition to Historic Filipinotown."

WeTip
WELFARE FRAUD
1 (800) 87-FRAUD

CARING
KIND
HEARTED
GENUINE
EMPOWER

HELPING
HAPPY
LOVING
POSITIVE
HOPE

Why We Give

Jerry Wanha
Registrar-Recorder/
County Clerk

*"I've been blessed,
truly grateful.
Therefore, I must give.
If not me, then who
will give?"*

Workplace giving begins with each and every one of you. We want to know how and why you give.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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- **Sponsor and support education**
 - o Fundraisers for local organizations that help survivors escape trafficking or provide direct services
 - o Paid internship and employment opportunities for survivors
 - o Educational scholarships for certifications/continued education
- **Volunteer**
 - o Pro bono medical/dental services and specialists, mentors, tutors, and interpreters (Korean, American Sign Language, Mexican Sign Language, Amharic, French, Bahasa)

Everyone can do something about human trafficking. In the richest state in the richest nation in the world, we cannot allow the most basic of human rights to be violated. Help us shed light on an issue that has been kept in the dark for far too long. Take action now.

Share Your Heart and Your Home

*Become a Foster/
Adoptive Parent*



A New Year's Resolution That Can Last a Lifetime

There are over 500 children in Los Angeles County growing up without the security of a permanent, loving home. Through no fault of their own, these kids are growing up in L.A. County's foster care system where they are frequently moved around and being separated from their brothers and sisters become their reality.

This year, we can make a difference in the life of a foster child by considering adopting from foster care. We welcome County employees from nurses to sheriff deputies to those who work at our parks and recreation centers.

Meet Curtis, a handsome 9-year-old boy who hopes to have a family of his own someday. Tall for his age and naturally athletic, Curtis could be your future MVP. He has been patiently waiting for his forever family for several years now and as he gets older he has become less optimistic that someday he will live with his very own family.



Photo by
Lauren Marsolier

Curtis first participated in a Heart Gallery photo shoot to find a family at the age of six and now three years later, he is still hopeful that there is a family for him. He says that he just wants to live with "someone who likes me and lets me play sports." Not too much to ask for this deserving boy. Curtis needs, more than anything, an adult who will commit to him unconditionally. With the right parent or parents cheering him on, he can share his smile freely and dream big.

It's Dog-Gone Cold Out There

The County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC) would like to remind L.A. County residents of the National Weather Service's (NWS) weather advisory for the Los Angeles area. Freezing temperatures are predicted by NWS in parts of Los Angeles County.

Director of DACC Marcia Mayeda says, "While our pets do have some protection against dropping temperatures with their coats, they are vulnerable in overly cold weather like we are." The Director and the entire DACC staff wish to remind residents that our communications centers are staffed at all hours to help animals in need.

Please remember to properly protect your animals from the cold today and through the winter. If in doubt, bring your pets indoors.

DACC Communication Center Phone Numbers

Downey: (562) 940-6898

Carson/Gardena: (310) 523-9566

Baldwin Park: (626) 962-3577

Lancaster: (661) 940-4191

Castaic: (661) 257-3191

Agoura: (818) 991-0071



Outdoor air pollution has been definitively linked to cancer and is officially classified as a carcinogen, according to research released by The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), an agency of the World Health Organization.

According to the IARC, outdoor air pollution is a leading environmental cause of cancer deaths. Specifically, exposure to outdoor air pollution causes lung cancer and an increased risk of bladder cancer.

Save money, save time, and save lives by Ridesharing. Help reduce the pollution in Los Angeles County.

Check out www.rideshare.lacounty.gov for more information.

“Women of the Year”



The Los Angeles County Commission for Women and the Board of Supervisors will host the 29th Annual “*Women of the Year*” Awards and Scholarship Luncheon in honor of Women’s History Month on March 10, 2014. The luncheon is the Commission’s *only* fundraising event. Proceeds will be utilized for vital

outreach throughout Los Angeles County in fulfilling the Commission’s goals of “Educating, Motivating and Inspiring Women” and to fund critical educational scholarships to assist low income, at-risk young women determined to continue their education.

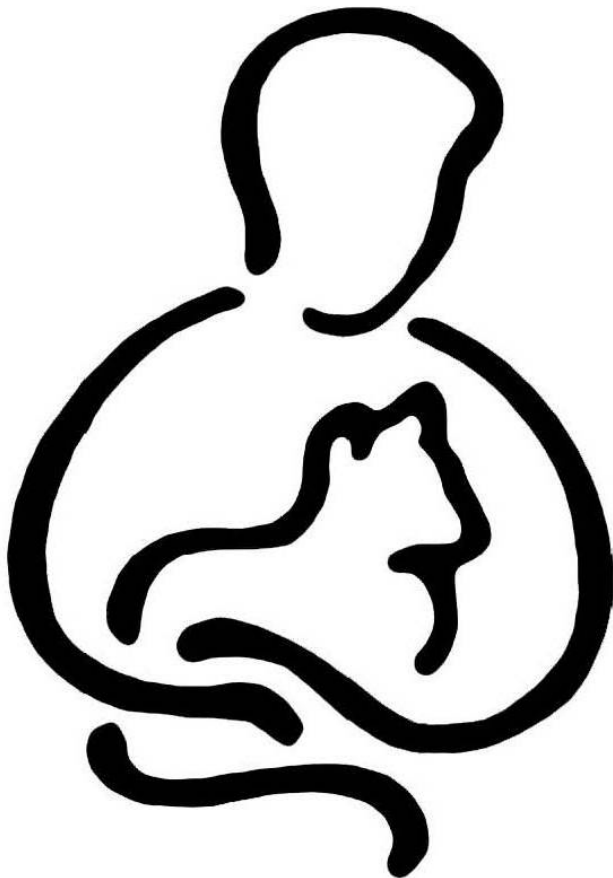


The luncheon promises to be exciting and rewarding, providing an opportunity to lift up and recognize courageous and dedicated women for their outstanding accomplishments in seeking gender equity, as well as their valued contributions in addressing a variety of wellness and quality-of-life issues facing women throughout the County.

Help us meet our goals in our outreach and assistance to women in Los Angeles County – *and join us in this grand celebration of the 29th Annual “Women of the Year.”* The event will be held at the Grand Hall of the Music Center, located at 135 North Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

For more information, visit the Commission’s website <http://laccw.lacounty.gov> . Register online at <http://bosevents.lacounty.gov> or for questions contact the Los Angeles County Commission for Women office at (213) 974-1455.

We look forward to your participation and your continued support.



Countywide Pet Adoption Campaign

The Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC) urges all County employees to consider adopting a pet from a Los Angeles County DACC animal care center when considering a four-legged companion. Did you know that an average of 250 homeless animals per day enter our animal care facilities? The beginning of a new year may just be an ideal time to make a permanent addition to your family. Choosing a DACC animal as a domestic pet benefits you, the residents of the County of Los Angeles, and the hundreds of loving animals waiting to be selected.

Even if you are not able to adopt, there are other options for you to help. DACC has an organized volunteer program, and temporarily fostering an animal in your home is another great way to make a difference. Monetary donations can be made to the Animal Care Foundation, and shelters sometimes need other donations like used blankets or pet toys.

Together, we can work to make the County a better place to live for all, until every pet finds a permanent home.

Retirees

*Congratulations to the following employees
who are joining the ranks of the retired
after their many years of service to the County of Los Angeles:*

45+ Years

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Diane M. Sparks
CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Barbara A. Mayes
HEALTH SERVICES: Denise Chism
INTERNAL SERVICES: Dorothy E. Williams
SHERIFF: Ofelia Holguin

40+ Years

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Lenell English, W S. Long, Earline Weaver Long
CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Donna W. Triggs
COMMUNITY & SENIOR SERVICES: Antoinette Claiborne
HEALTH SERVICES: Daniel J. Ellis, Omar J. Gomez, Annette Oakery
INTERNAL SERVICES: Patricia S. Brice, Erlinda L. Chaira, Idell Mahan, Rosalie E. Muro
MENTAL HEALTH: Anna Nudelman
PUBLIC HEALTH: Patricia M. Gallegos, Mae White, Yvonne Wiley
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Jacob Aguilar, Bella J. Batiste, Jacqueline E. Johnson, Glee E. Langenbacher, Debra D. Morris
PUBLIC WORKS: Chester E. Brown

35+ Years

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/WEIGHTS & MEASURES: Michael C. Pearson
CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Armando A. Franco
CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Blanche K. Smith
COMMUNITY & SENIOR SERVICES: Ken D. Regalado
FIRE: Nina Thorne
HEALTH SERVICES: Martha O. Alcaraz, Deborah A. Askew, Gilbert Carlos, Irma Lopez, Deborah T. Neely, Merthy M. Nettles, Elisa Palanca, Theresa Patrick, Gloria Reed
INTERNAL SERVICES: Mitchell Jones, Hattie L. Roberson, William W. Staples
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Hoa X. Do, Pamela C. Tottress
PUBLIC WORKS: Elisa D. Nepomuceno, George M. Papik
SHERIFF: Irene Hernandez

SUPERIOR COURT: Sandra Hansborough, Tammy M. Lau
TREASURER & TAX COLLECTOR: Dorfa L. Serra

30+ Years

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Judy R. Hogan, William Minter, Ruth Nunez
CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Susan C. Worthen
COUNTY COUNSEL: Nancy Tsai
DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Randal G. Harris
FIRE: Tod J. Hipsher, Lawrence F. Perkins, Dale G. Tretheway, Andrew Villarreal, Timothy A. Williams
HEALTH SERVICES: Carmen V. Church, Priscilla M. Contreras, Ronda J. Escanero, Rachel Gozun, Graciela Ibarra, Mary E. Johnson, Patricia G. Martinez, Corey K. Nguyen, Rebecca Rivera, Aram Stephanian
INTERNAL SERVICES: Hakop Kasilian
PUBLIC HEALTH: Irma Rivera
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Arizona Woods
PUBLIC WORKS: David R. Bailey, Mary E. Ohde, Gregory J. Weiss
SHERIFF: Perry C. Ahn, Gilbert D. Anderson, Jr., Anthony L. Campbell, Jerry C. Cummins, Brenda L. Frazer, Richard E. Gurr, Steven L. Morris, Joe L. Ochoa, Raul G. Perez
SUPERIOR COURT: Terry G. Frala

25+ Years

ASSESSOR: Leandro R. Capagcuan, Cecilia C. Del Rosario, Sophie Mitchell
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE: Rosie L. Rider
CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Albert P. Argomaniz, Sherwin L. Forte, Petra Reyes
FIRE: Bradley G. Watts
HEALTH SERVICES: James H. Anderson, Cristeta F. Cabanban, Velma B. Dyer, Florence V. Manning, Alberto Manzanares, H. Niemiec-Gonz, Arturo S. Nuguid, Orlando Perez, Jo L. Wilkerson, Veeranuj Wong
INTERNAL SERVICES: Joyce M. Webb, Mark J. Busam
MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER: Stephen Scholtz
MENTAL HEALTH: Frank D. Alvarez
PARKS & RECREATION: Susan Pearson
PUBLIC HEALTH: Emad G. Nassih
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Navard Barseganyan, Peter S. Castro, Judith Garrido, Klara Gevorkian, Siranush Karaguezian, Patricia E. Lopez, Fuwah Y. Louie, Clarence R. Shaw
PUBLIC WORKS: Stephen C. Coverly
SHERIFF: Brendan M. Caslin, Sharon D. Fisher, Martha Morales, Silverio Rivas, Jr., Kathleen R. Simpson, Jon E. Thorne, Oscar R. Vanwie, Darrell L. Weger
SUPERIOR COURT: Alfreda Williams
TREASURER & TAX COLLECTOR: Joyce M. Robins, Helen J. Thedford



Consumer Affairs Rings in 2014

with a new website and a look at new consumer laws

The Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) always rings in the New Year by looking closely at a new set of important consumer laws. You can find our full breakdown of important consumer laws at the Consumer Affairs website, dca.lacounty.gov. And that's where you'll find the biggest change at the Department of Consumer Affairs in 2014.

Consumer Affairs has partnered with the Internal Services Department (ISD) on an all-new design for the DCA website. Our website improves upon the County's portal template with a fresh, modern look and feel. It features the County's first "responsive design" by ISD, which is built to work effectively on any computer, smartphone, or tablet. You'll find all the important Consumer Affairs content, including Small Claims Court advice, in a format that is easier to navigate. There is also plenty of all-new content, plus new sections about our expanded Mediation division and more.

Visit our website at dca.lacounty.gov and email us your opinions at info@dca.lacounty.gov.

Here's a brief summary of the top four new consumer laws for 2014:

1. [AB 1159: Immigration Services Fraud](#)

This law strengthens existing State laws to protect consumers from shady immigration consultants. Only licensed attorneys and individuals authorized by the Board of Immigration Appeals can provide legal advice or representation to consumers.

Under the new law, immigration consultants and attorneys cannot demand up-front money for services. They must pay a higher bond (\$100,000 up from \$50,000). If they are not an attorney, they cannot suggest in any way that they are an attorney. (This is often done by using the deceptive Spanish translations of "notario publico" or "notario" which are now specifically prohibited.)

2. [SB 233: Fair Debt Buying Practices Act](#)

This law adds new restrictions on debt collectors. They now must prove the debt is legitimate and they are authorized to collect. Among other things, they cannot make a written statement in order to collect unless they have more important information about the debt, including the balance, date or default, names of creditors, contracts etc. They must share all this information with the debtor.

3. [Mortgage Servicers Regulations](#)

Mortgage servicers are responsible for collecting payments from mortgage borrowers on behalf of loan owners. The federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau created new rules and clarified others to improve the work done by mortgage services. A few of the important rules include:

- If a borrower dies, servicers must promptly identify and communicate with family members, heirs, or other parties who have a legal interest in the home.
- Servicers must attempt to contact borrowers each time they miss a payment to provide important information that can help get them on track.
- Servicers have to give consumers a written mortgage statement each billing cycle showing all the important figures about the payments, what's due and how to get help, among other items.
- If consumers have an adjustable-rate mortgage (ARM), the servicer must promptly credit payments and give at least 60 days' notice before the interest rate changes if that change will result in a new payment amount.

4. [SB 46: Electronic Data Breaches](#)

Any person or business in California must tell consumers if their computer system was breached and any personal information might have been stolen. This already included your name, social security number, driver's license number, financial account, and medical information. The new law adds passwords, usernames, and answers to security questions to the list of data breaches that require notification.

For a complete list of new important consumer laws for 2014, check the DCA website at dca.lacounty.gov. You can call Consumer Affairs at (800) 593-8222.

Enriching Lives

